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AFGHANISTAN

Date: June 2011

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FACT SHEET

Assistance for Afghanistan's Anti-Corruption Authority (4A)

OVERVIEW

Assistance for Afghanistan's Anti-Corruption Authority (4A) project supports the U.S. objective to promote a more capable, accountable, and effective government in Afghanistan that serves the Afghan people. . The project was designed in close collaboration with government counterparts and other donors active in the area of anti-corruption to develop a functioning High Office of Oversight (HOO) and robust civil society community to mitigate corruption in Afghanistan.

The goals of the 4A project are to help in the development of a HOO that is institutionally sustainable, monitors and models best practices of transparency and accountability, and is capable of planning for and managing donor resources as well as government staffing and funding requirements. This includes HOO staff on the formal government staffing table (tashqil), HOO's administrative functions able to pass independent audits, and a fully-planned budget. The expected result is that Afghans have more options for reporting corruption and receiving action on complaints at the national and sub-national level.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

- Assistance in the development and implementation of a sound institutional and sustainability strategy, including budget planning, a long-term staffing plan that will result in all HOO staff being on the formal government staffing table (tashqil), and advance planning for assistance needed to implement the strategy
- An assessment of the HOO's human resources--including its current structure, staff, and skills--which will identify gaps in the HOO's staff capabilities and allow the Office to re-organize in line with its new strategy and allow the project to implement relevant training programs
- Technical assistance to help the HOO meet performance goals as identified in semi-annual operational plans, addressing the priority areas covered by this program, in particular, complaints management and case tracking; monitoring and oversight; and personal asset disclosure, publication, and verification
- Assistance to civil society and the private sector in the creation of active partnerships with the HOO to develop and implement anti-corruption initiatives

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Supported the HOO's development of a strategic plan aligned with its current mandate, which may be adapted as and when other responsibilities are added
- Awarded small grants to a variety of civil society organizations to take on the fight against corruption through activities that include administrative process streamlining, workshops across trade union membership, and the development of business associations to identify common types of corruption
- Completed a human resources assessment of the HOO, which is laying the foundation for a variety of capacity-building interventions across the broad spectrum of the HOO's administrative, technical, and other areas
- Technical assistance has been initiated which will support the HOO's key programmatic areas, in complaints management, case tracking, asset registration and verification, monitoring and oversight of ministerial level action plans, among others